

VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP
Minutes of Meeting
January 2, 2018

SPY POND COMMITTEE
<http://arlingtonma.gov/spypond>
Town Hall Annex, First Floor

In attendance: Brad Barber, Harriet Noyes, Jane Howard, Stroker Rogovin, Steve Ricci, Bob Noyes, Bill Eykamp, Cheryl Miller, Dick Smith

Facilitator: Brad Barber

Minutes: Harriet Noyes

Next meetings: Tuesdays Feb. 6, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5 at 7:30 p.m.

- **Annual report from Solitude Lake Management** was discussed. It mentioned the removal of two water chestnut plants (near Spring Valley Road and at the end of Sheraton Park Road). While easy to identify and pull out, water chestnuts are hard to get rid of completely as we know from experience with other water bodies. We need to survey and pull water chestnuts starting in early June. A good resource is <https://www.northeastans.org/docs/waterchestnutpull.pdf> from Vermont Dept Environmental Conservation.
- **Planning for Trails Day** continues. The AMC Conservation Commission will participate as usual. The Boy Scouts may also want to be involved. Other groups should be informed, such the Boys and Girls Club, The Arlington/Belmont Crew, The Arlington Land Trust, and the Friends of Spy Pond Park. Bill suggested a project involving a railing from the stone bench for those who need steadying to get down to the water. Materials? Maintenance? Brad will check further.
- **The levels of arsenic in Spy Pond sediments and basins received much discussion.** Prof. John Durant of Tufts and his students have been studying this since 2000. Although the arsenic is from the 1960s, it continues to migrate through the sediment. The south basin by Route 2 has higher levels, probably due to salt in the deep water. Several on the committee will read the papers carefully, and Brad will talk to John Durant about updating the studies. The state also reports DDT and Chlordane in Spy Pond (The carps fished here apparently don't taste good!)
- **EcoFest 2018 is Saturday, March 24, 10 – 2.** We should have a booth. Who will be available to man it? What should we feature? Catch basins?
- **Meeting adjourned at 9 PM**